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ACTION ARA-16
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-06 SY-05 SYE-00 DCT-02 PL-02
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R 271330Z OCT 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5493
INFO AMEMBASSY BRILGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
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USCINCLANT NORFOLKVA
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 7923
E.O.12065: GDS 10/24/86 (FORBES JOHN) OR-P
TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITREP NO 5
1. C-ENTIRE TEXT
2. VIOLENCE
-- IN EAST KINGSTON'S HANNAH TOWN, A COMMUNITY TROUBLED BY POLITICAL VIOLENCE AN ELDERLY COUPLE DIED WHEN GUNMEN KICKED OFF THE DOOR OF THEIR HOUSE AT 0900 OCTOBER 23 AND SHOT THEM. THE FOUR GUNMEN WERE REPORTEDLY WEARING ARMY FATIGUES.
--IN A RAID ON A PREMISES AT WEST STREET IN DOWNTOWN KINGSTON ON OCTOBER 21. THE SECURITY FORCES REPORTEDLY SEIZED TEN ROUNDS OF M-16 AMMUNITION.
-- POLICE REPORTS NOW INDICATE THAT THE TWO DRIVERS OF PEOPLE NATIONAL PARTY (PNP CANDIDATE FOR NORTH WEST

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ST CATHERINE JACK STEPHENSON, ERE KILLED BY SUPPORTED OF THE JAMAICA LABOUR PARTY (JLP)
--A TOTAL OF ELEVEN PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN THE 24 HOUR PERIOD ENDING AT 12:00 NOON ON OCTOBER 23. IN ADDITION TO THOSE MENIONTED ABOVE, FIVE PERSONS WERE KILLED IN SEPARATE INCIDENTS IN DOWN TOWN KINGSTON.
3. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.
-JLP SECRETARY GENERAL BRUCE GOLDING ANNOUNCED AN A PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 23 THAT THE OPPOSITION IS SEEKING AN EARLY RULING FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS (DPP) AS TO WHETHER PRIMIN MANLEY SHOULD BE PROSECUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEATH OF TWO CHILDREN INHILL. ST ELEIZABETH, ON OCTOBER 20. THE CHILRDEN WERE KILLED IN A CLASH BETWEE PNP AND JLP SUPPORTS AS MANLEY TOURED THE AREA. ACCORDING TO THE JLP ACCOUNT, MANLEY ARMED

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WITH A PISTOL, PERSONALLY LED PNP SUPPORTERS WHO ATTACKED THE HOME IN WHICH THE TWO CHILDREN WERE KILLED. THE ATTACK, ACCORDING TO THE JLP SPOKESMAN, CAME AS MANLEY AND THE PNP CROWD ATTEMPTED TO CORNER JLP CANDISTE FOR SOUTH EAST ST ELIZABETH CECIL JULY. JULY ESCAPED BUT LOST EIGHT TEETH, AND SUFFERED SEVERAL ABRASIONS AFTER BEING MAULED BY THE PNP CROWD.

--THE PRIME MINISTER HAS DENIED THE JLP ALLEGATION AND RELEASED A STATEMENT ON THE PNP VERSION OF WHAT TRANSPIRED AT TOP HILL. MANLEY CLAIMS THAT HE ONLY WALKED THROUGH THE AREA TO PRESERVE THE PRINCIPLE THAT JAMAICANS CANNOT BE KEPT FROM CARRYING OUT THEIR LEGITIMATE POLITICAL RIGHTS. MANLEY STATES THAT SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM THE HOME WHERE JLP CADIDATE JULY HAD TAKEN REFUGE AND THAT SECURITY FORCE MEMBERS RETURNED THE FIRE. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN JULY WITH A GUN AND BLAMED JULY AND THE JLP SUPPORTERS FOR THE WHOLE INCIDENT.

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--CLINTON MCGANN BROTHER OF SLAIN PNP MP FOR EAST RURAL ST ANDREW ROY MCGANN, HAS DENIED THAT HE HAS WITH DRAWN FROM THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AS A RESULT OF HIS BROTHER'S DEATH. CLINTON MCGANN WHO IS CAMPAIGN MANAGER FOR JOAN FORDON THE JLP CANDIDATE IN THE EAST RURAL CONSTITUTENCY, ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE STATING THAT HE WOULD REFRAIN FROM ACTIVE CAMPAIGNING OUT OF RESPECT FOR HIS BROTHER'S FAMILY BUT THAT HE STILL SUPPORTS THE JLP AND BELIEVES THE PARTY WILL WIN.

-- PNP GENERAL SECRETARY DK DUNCAN CLAIMED ON OCTOBER 23 THAT THE JLP HAD A PLOT TO KILL ONE OR TWO OF ITS LESS IMPORTANT CANDIDATES AND BLAME THE PNP, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. DUNCAN SAID THE OPPOSITION WOULD CLAIM THAT THE CANDIDATE HAD BEEN KILEL IN RETALIATION FOR THE DEATH OF ROY MCGANN.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINGSTON 7923
--PRESS ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA PRESIDENT BEN BRODIE SPEAKING AT PRESS CONFER ON OCTOBER 23, DENOUNCED PUBLICIZED JLP PLANS FOR THE MEDIA. HE CHARGED THAT THE OPPOSITION WOULD SELL RADIO JAMAICA (RJR) AND BRING IT UNDER THE CONTROL OF "MINORITY " BUSINESS INTERESTS. HE ALSO CHARGED THAT SEAGA HAD CARRIED ON A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE JAMAICA BROADCASTING CORPORATION (JBC) AND PLANNED TO REMOVE EMPLOYEES NOT SYMPATHETIC TO THE JLP IF HE WINS. BRODIE CLAIMED THAT THE JLP INTENDED TO SILENCE THE PRESS AS PAST OF A CAMPAIGN TO BRING BACK THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND.
-- THE PNP RAN FULL PAGE ADS IN THE OCTOBER 23 AND 24 EDITIONS OF THE DAILY NEWS. WARNING JAMAICAN OF A CAMPAIGN OF LIES DIRECTED AT THE PNP AND OF A JLP PLAN TO BRING BACK THE IMF AFTER THE ELECTIONS. THE FIRST AD WARNED THAT "EVERY ELECTION THE JLP COMES WITH A BIG LIE" AND ASKS" WILL THEY PRODUCE SOME DEFECTOR TO SMEAR THE PNP? THE SECOND AD MAKES MUCH OF SEAGA MEETING WITH IMF

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WESTERN HEISPHERE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ON JUNE 23, THE DAY OF THE ALLEGED ATTMPTED COUP IN JAMAICA.
--TH JLP PUBLISHED A FULL PAGE AD IN THE OCTOBER 23 EDITION OF THE GLEANER WARNING VOTERS TO "BEWARE OF PNP PLOTS TO SMEAR THE JLP" THE AD ALLEGES THAT THERE HAVE BEEN EIGH PLOTS IN RECENT YEARS TO SMEAR THE JLP. ITS CANDIDATES OR ITS OFFICIALS. THE JLP WARNS VOTERS TO REMEMBER THAT " THE PNP ARE NOT TO BE TRUSTED"
-- AN AMERICAN FREE LANCE PHOTO JOURNALIST WORKING FOR NEWSWEEK LEFT THE ISLAND WEDNESDAY MONRING AFTER BEING INDIRECTLY TOLD THAT THE POLICE HAD RECEIVED A THREAT ON HIS LIFE. HE REPORTEDLY HAD FILM CONFISCATED BY POLICE

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WHEN HE TOOK PHOTOS OF SUSPECTS LINED UP AGAINST A WALL. HE ALSO ANGERED MEMBER OF THE JLP INNER CIRCLE ON OCTOBER 19 WHEN HE SAID HE WAS A SOCIALIST AND THAT MANLEY SHOULD WIN AND TRIED TO TAKE SHOTS OF MRS SEAGA DANCING.

-- A SECOND AMERICAN FREE LANCE PHOTOGRAPHER WORKING FOR TIME LEFT THE ISLAND BEFORE THE ELCTION AFTER EXPERIENCEING THE OCTOBER 22 DISTURBANCES AT SPANISH TOWN. SHE GOT HER PHOTOS BUT FELT THAT THE CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE WAS BECOMING TOO RISKY TO CONTINUE FOLLOWING MANLEY AND SEAGA ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL.

--THE PNP IS HOLDING A MASS RALLY IN DK DUNCAN'S ST ANDREW CONSTITUENCY ON THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 25, PARTY LEADERS AND CIRPORATE AREA CANDIDATES WILL SPEAK. THIS IS A RESCHEDULING OF AN OCTOBER 14 RALLY CANCELLED AFTER THE MCGANN KILLING.

--THE EDITOR OF THE GLEANER CALLED THE EMBASSY OCTOBER 22 TO ASK IF WE COULD COMMANT ON REPORTS THAT A US NAVAL VESSEL FROM GUANTANAMO HAS "INTERCEPTED" A CUBAN VESSEL CARRYING BALLOT BOXES TO JAMAICA. WE REPLIED THAT WE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE REPORT AND WERE

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EXTREMELY SKEPTICAL.

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